Scaling Up Nutrition in Ghana – Progress Report

National Nutrition Partners Coordinating Committee (NaNuPACC)
Country Context

• Ghana is on track to meet the MDG 1, *(but prevalence of child undernutrition is still too high)*
  • Reductions in underweight have been greatest in the poorest segment of the population
• However, other Child Nutrition indicators have not improved substantially
  • 28% of children under-five years stunted
  • 9% of children under-five years wasted
  • High prevalence of anaemia
  • High rates of under-nutrition among children
Country Commitment and Response to SUN

• High level of Government committed to Improving Nutrition and Food Security (as contained in the GSGDA & MTNDP)

• An early riser SUN country (Letter of Intent by Minister for Health on 25th March 2011)

• GHS currently leading the SUN initiative in Ghana

• A National Planning Committee coordinated by the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) in place
  • Membership include MOH, GHS, MoFA, Education, CSOs & Development Partners etc
  • Launch of the SUN in Ghana is planned for November 2011
Country Commitment and Response to SUN  - 2

• GSGDA and MTND Policy framework 2010-2013 identifies nutrition and food security as critical cross-cutting issues

• Existing strategic and policy documents address nutrition and food security concerns, e.g.
  • “Imagine Ghana Free of Malnutrition”, NMCCSP Program supported by WB
  • the “Food and Agricultural Sector Development Policy (FASDEP)” with its investment plan (METASIP)
  • Health Sector Medium Term Development Plan (HSMTDP 2010-2013)
Challenges

• The need for nutrition advocacy and comprehensive communication strategy – currently under development

• Sustaining high level commitment and ensuring that nutrition is placed firmly on the agenda of District Assemblies

• Adopting a more integrated approach to target non-nutritionists and curative care officers
Institutional Arrangements

• A National Planning Committee on Nutrition led by the NDPC

• Multi-sectoral platform established (NaNuPACC) - Chaired by the GHS

• Collaboration with key Development Partners
Efforts towards Scaling Up Nutrition

• Strengthen strategic and management capacity of the Nutrition Department

• Advocate for nutrition as a priority on sustainable basis for national development

• Finalize the National Nutrition Policy to provide the legal and institutional framework

• Finalize the Nutrition Advocacy document by end of 2011
Thank You